

MARVEL



NEW
**6-PART
STORY
STARTS
HERE!**



Q: Ahhhh, how wonderful! It's time to read my favorite book, A+X!
A: You bet your LIFE it is! It's time to take one X-MAN and one AVENGER and SMASH THEM TOGETHER!
Simmer for TEN TANTALIZING PAGES and then REPEAT for a whole SECOND STORY!

Q: And the best part? There's NO CONTINUITY. No continuity to worry about at all!
A: Uh...

Q: What?

A: Well...we've uh...we've made a BIG CHANGE to A+X this issue! We're introducing an ONGOING STORY! That's right, the X-MEN's misunderstood revolutionary leader, CYCLOPS, is teaming up with the star-spangled AVENGER himself, CAPTAIN AMERICA! And will be for SIX WHOLE ISSUES!

Q: WHAT? But ever since AVX those two hate each other! There's no way they would—HEY, THAT'S CONTINUITY!

A: BUT WAIT! In the second feature we get two femmes fatale in the form of the stealth Avenger, BLACK WIDOW, and the former White Queen, EMMA FROST, teaming up to keep their public images pure!

Q: Hang on, I'm still hung up on that continuity question. Is this—

A: NO TIME! We've got to read the comic right now...OR ELSE!



**CAPTAIN
AMERICA**

CYCLOPS

**GERRY
DUGGAN**
WRITER

**DAVID
YARDIN**
ARTIST

**ANDRES
MOSSA**
COLORIST

**VC'S CLAYTON
COWLES**
LETTERER

**BLACK
WIDOW**

**HOWARD
CHAYKIN**
WRITER/ARTIST



Emma Frost

**VC'S CLAYTON
COWLES**
LETTERER

**JORDAN D.
WHITE + NICK
LOWE**
EDITORS

**AXEL
ALONSO**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

**JOE
QUESADA**
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

**DAN
BUCKLEY**
PUBLISHER

**ALAN
FINE**
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

**ON THE ROAD,
IN THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST...**

THIS IS
THE MOST
BORING TRIP
EV-ER!

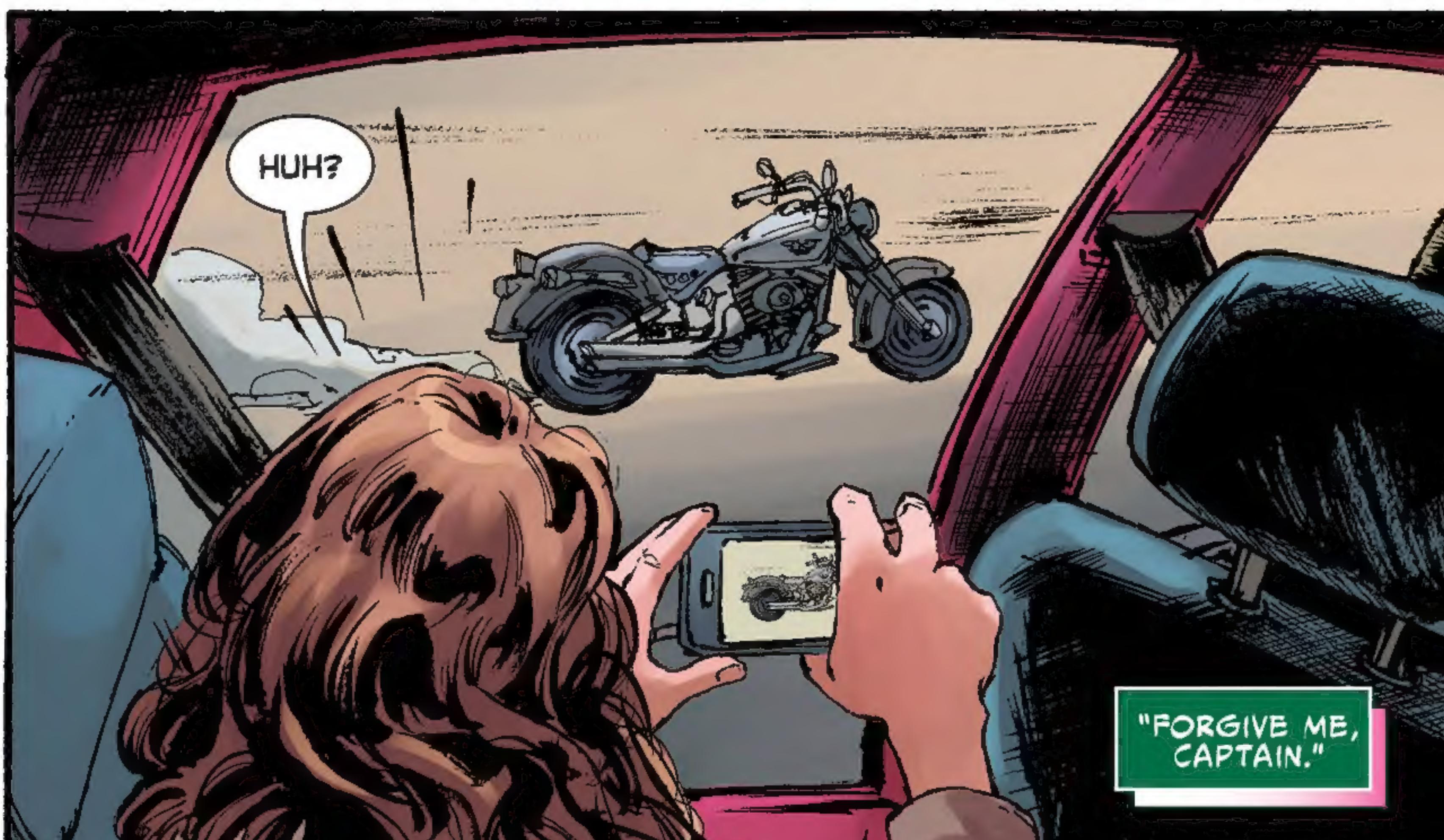
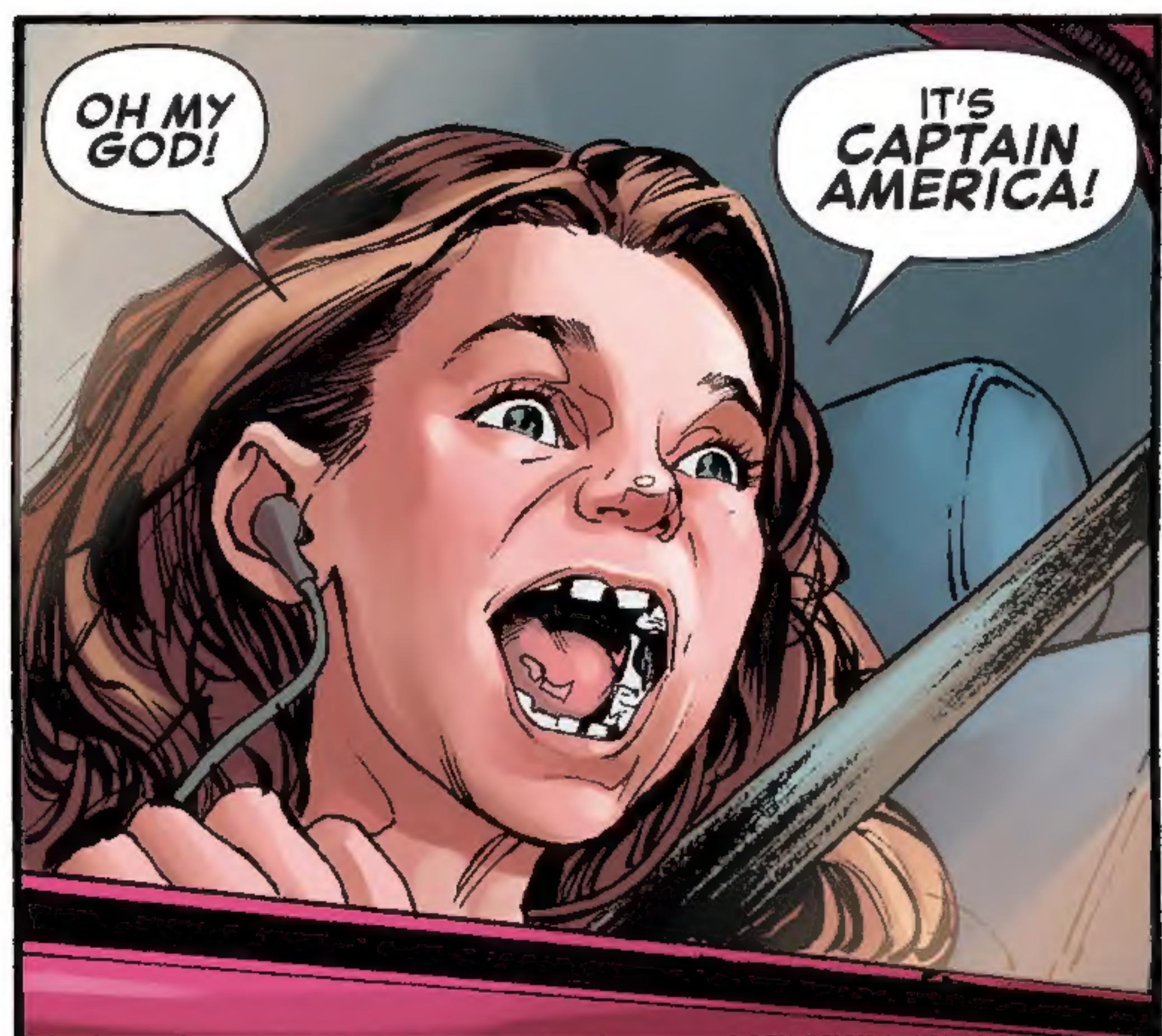
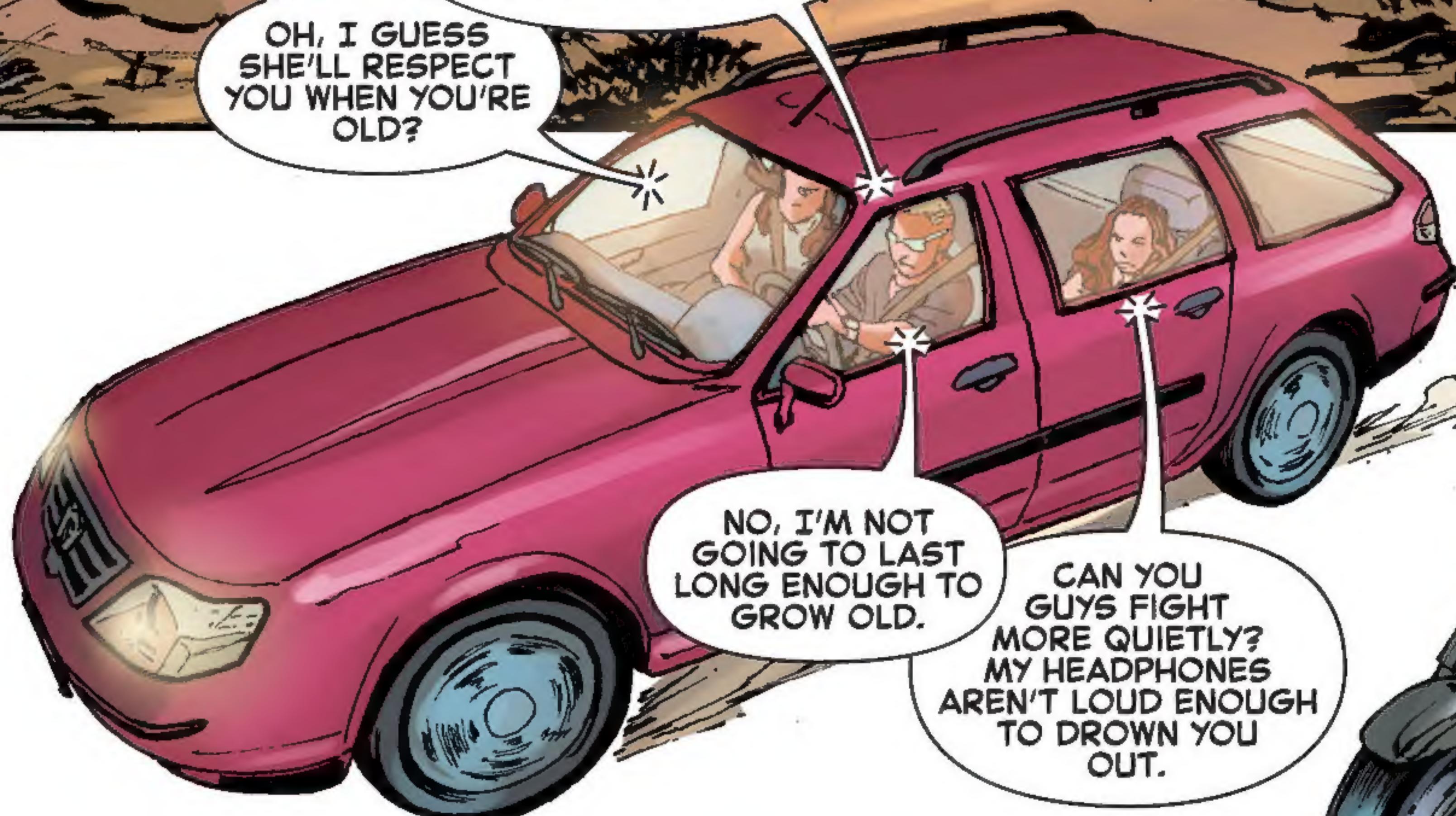
HONEY, THE **BEST**
TRIPS TO SEE YOUR
FATHER'S MOTHER ARE
BORING. LET ME TELL YOU
ABOUT AN **EXCITING**
ONE THAT--

REALLY NICE,
CAROL. TEACH OUR
DAUGHTER TO NOT
RESPECT ELDERS AND SHE
WON'T RESPECT YOU
WHEN YOU'RE OLD.

OH, I GUESS
SHE'LL RESPECT
YOU WHEN YOU'RE
OLD?

NO, I'M NOT
GOING TO LAST
LONG ENOUGH TO
GROW OLD.

CAN YOU
GUYS FIGHT
MORE QUIETLY?
MY HEADPHONES
AREN'T LOUD ENOUGH
TO DROWN YOU OUT.



NOW THAT
YOU'VE JOINED US,
I CAN GET RIGHT
TO THE POINT.

YOU BOTH
CAN HEAR ME,
BUT OBVIOUSLY
CAN'T MOVE. I WILL
REMEDY THAT IN
A MOMENT.

MY NAME IS
EGGOSHAKE. YOU
CAN CALL ME K'THRON.
I COME WITH ILL
TIDINGS...

THE
SKRULLS HAVE
RETURNED
TO YOUR
PLANET.

THIS IS CADRE K.
THEY ARE AN...IMPURE
SEGMENT OF THE SKRULL
POPULATION. LIKE THE X-MEN OF
EARTH, THEY WERE BORN WITH
POWERS AND ABILITIES
BEYOND THE SKRULL
SPECIES.

WE BELIEVE THAT CADRE K IS HERE ON EARTH TO CARRY OUT ATTACKS AGAINST YOUR METAHUMAN COMMUNITY TO AVENGE OUR EMPIRE'S DEFEAT DURING THE BATTLE FOR EARTH.

I PERSUADED MY MORE HAWKISH COLLEAGUES THAT THIS ACTIVITY WOULD ONLY BRING OUR PEOPLE MORE HARSHIP THAT MY PEOPLE CAN ILL AFFORD. WE'RE NOMADS NOW...SCATTERED ACROSS A DOZEN STAR SYSTEMS.

THIS GROUP RECEIVED TACTICAL TRAINING FROM THE SKRULL EMPIRE, AND THEN ADDITIONAL SCHOOLING IN THIS USE OF THEIR...ABNORMALITIES FROM THE TELEPATH CHARLES XAVIER.

TRY AS I MIGHT, I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE HIM, SO I HAVE BROUGHT YOU BOTH HERE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.

THE LAST BIT OF INFORMATION I HAVE IS MOST TROUBLING: THEIR MUTATED SKRULL PHYSIOLOGY MIGHT MAKE YOUR SKRULL DETECTORS INEFFECTIVE.

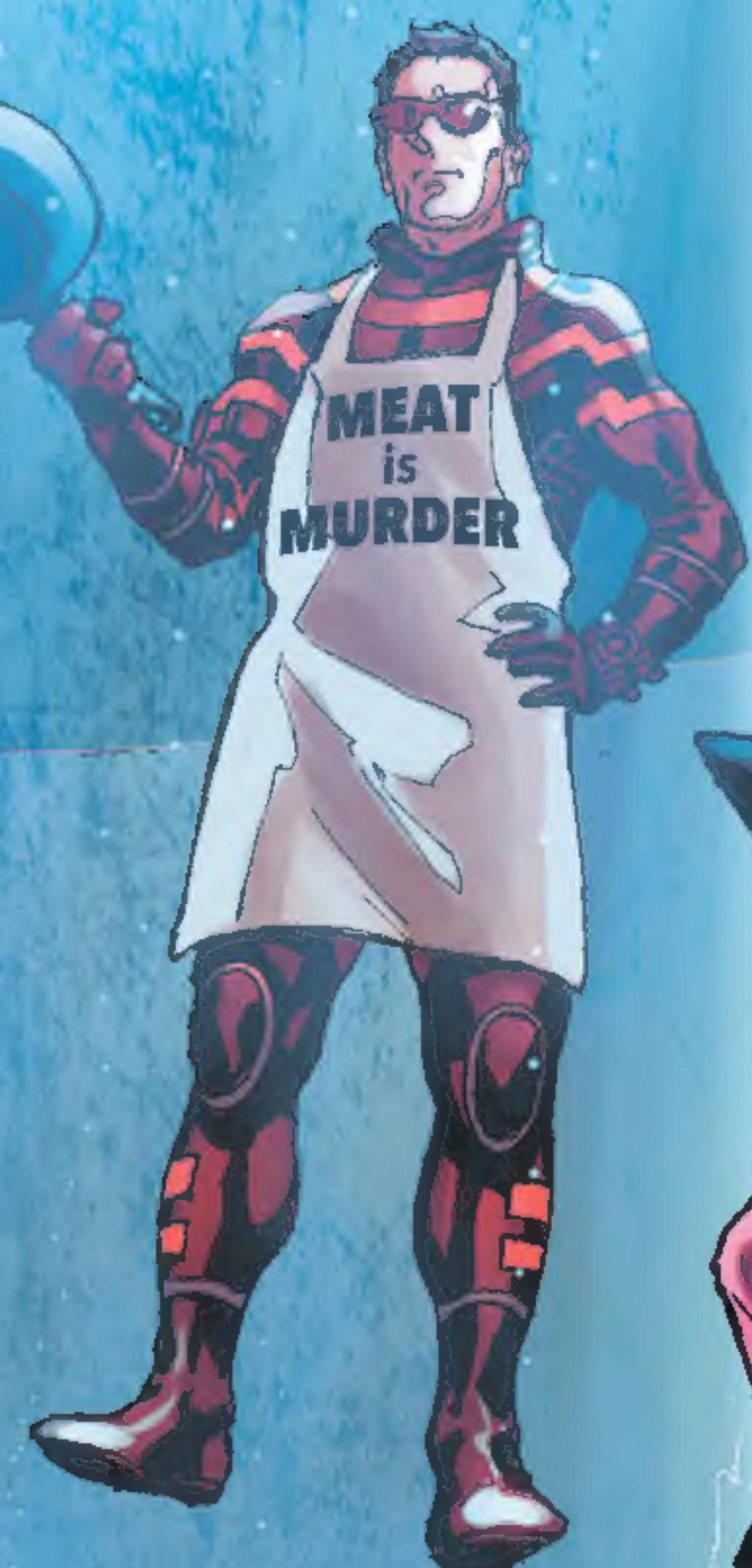
NOW THAT I'VE SAID MY PIECE, I'LL RELEASE YOU BOTH AND HOPE THAT YOU WILL FORGO ANY PHYSICAL ATTACK ON ME.

THE MEMBERS OF CADRE K COULD BE ANYONE, BUT I'VE SCANNED YOU BOTH AND CONFIRMED YOU'RE HUMAN, AND A MUTANT-HUMAN. SO YOU ONLY HAVE EACH OTHER TO TRUST...

...CYCLOPS
AND CAPTAIN
AMERICA.

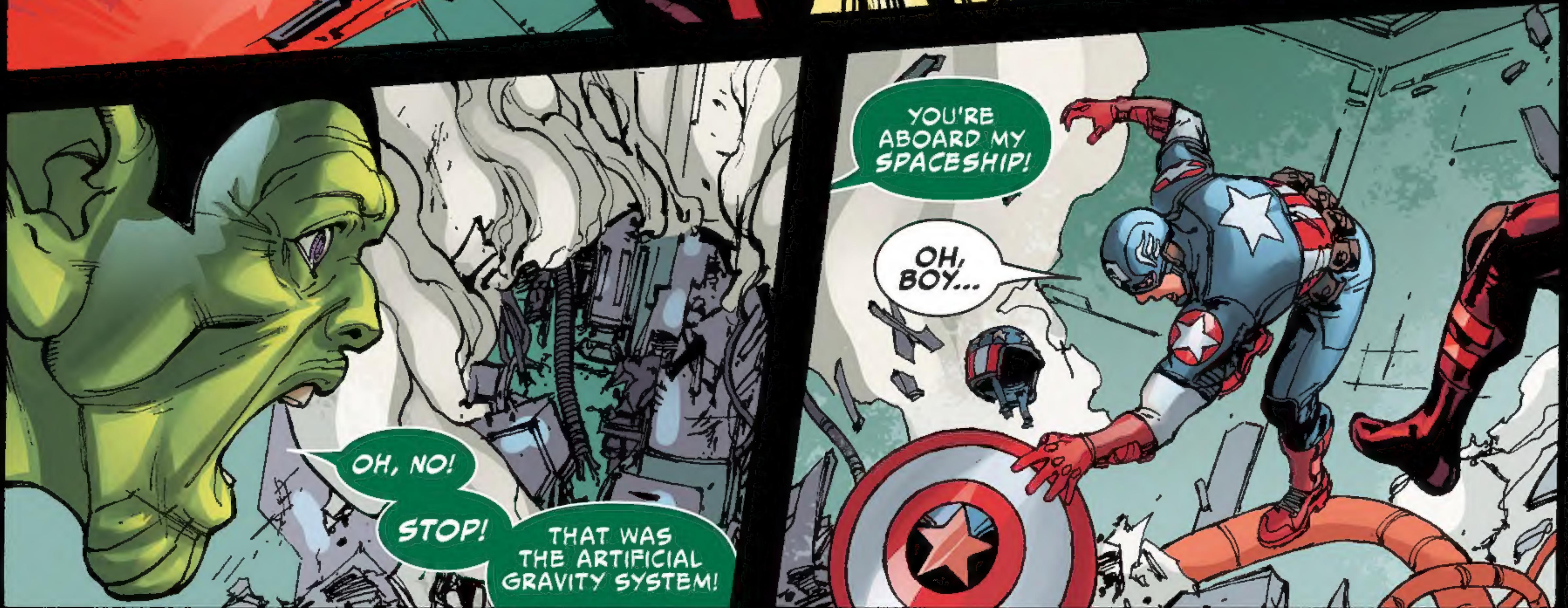
I
RELEASE
YOU.

MATE
EXILE.



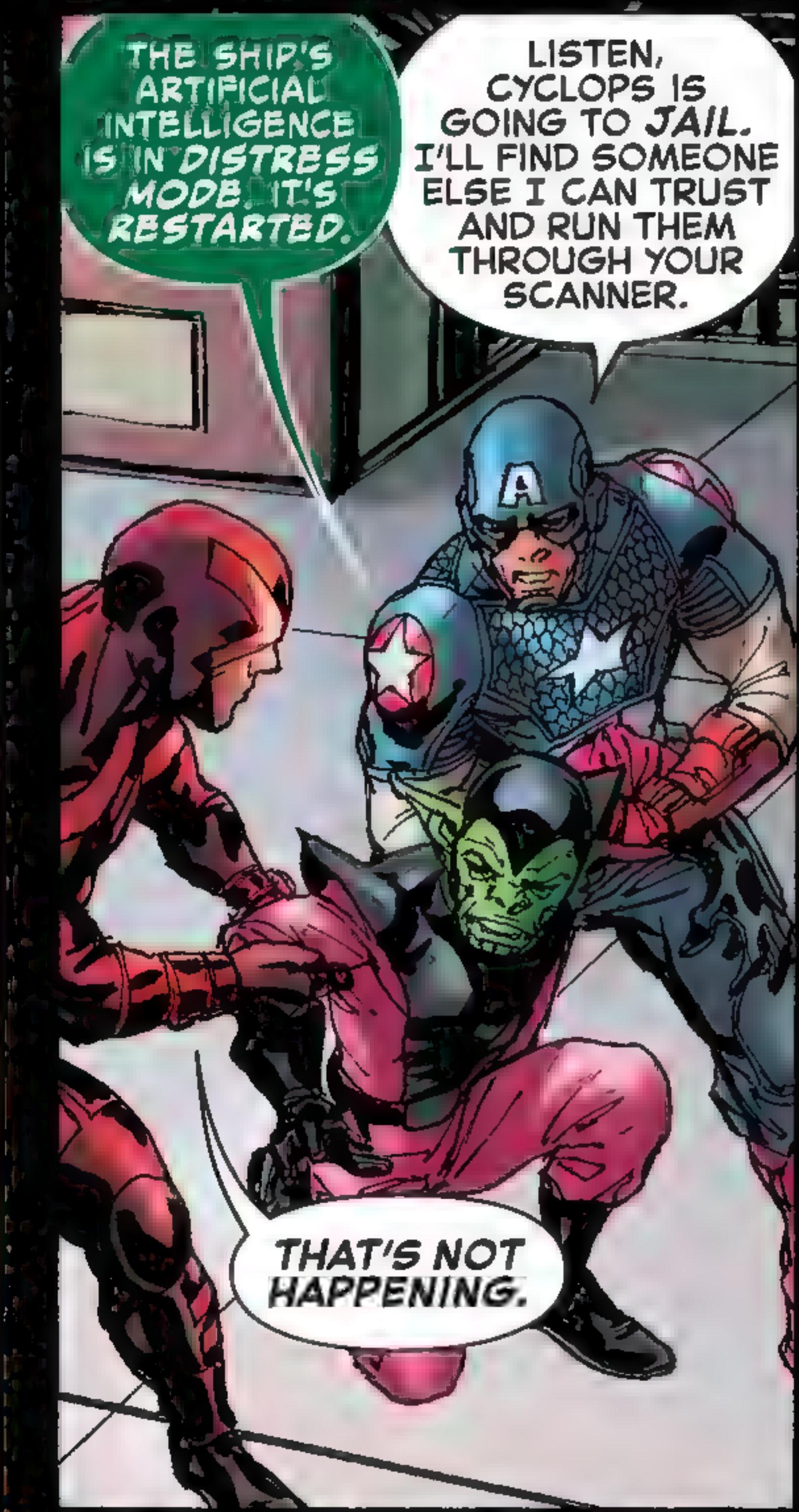
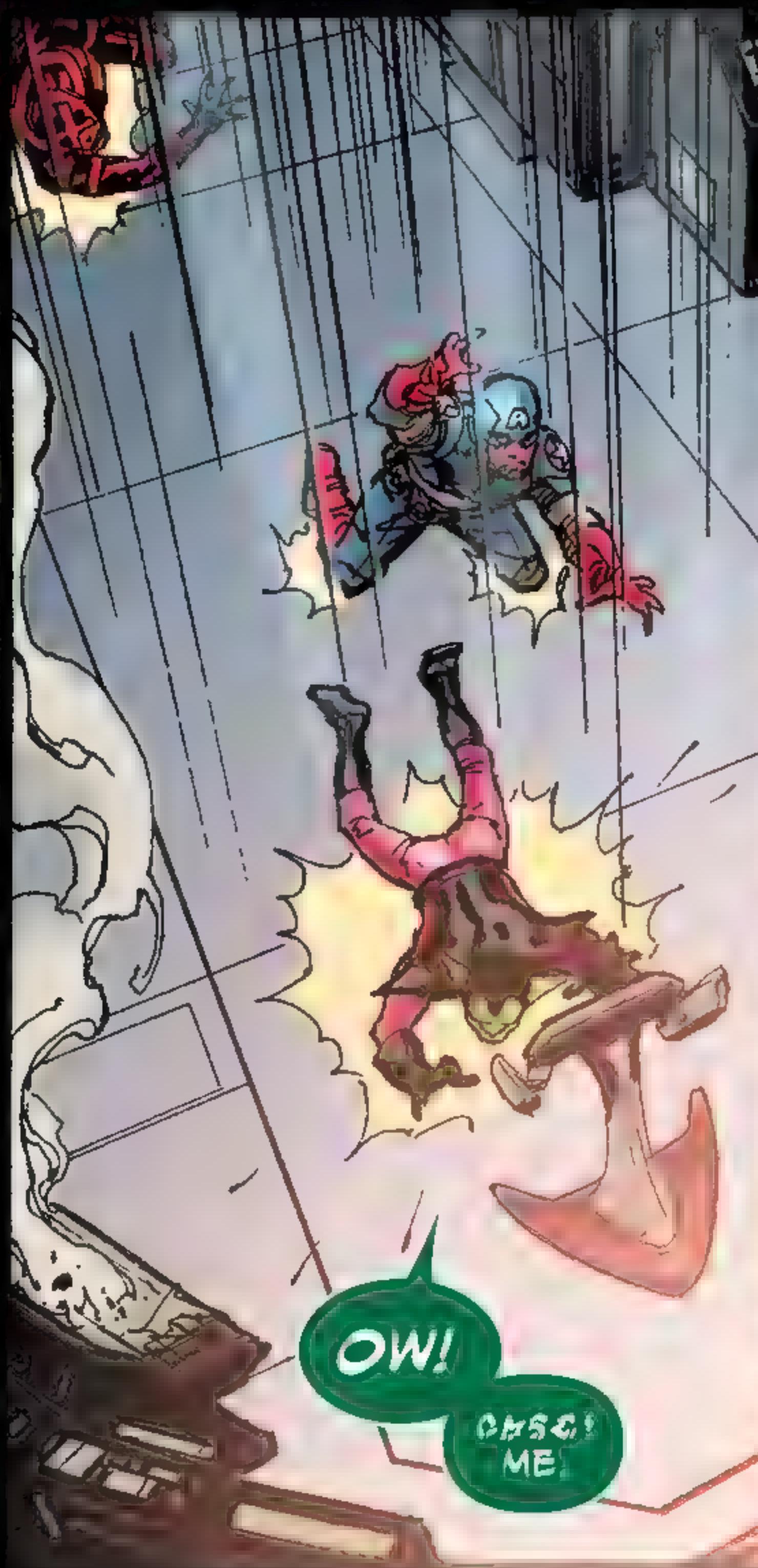
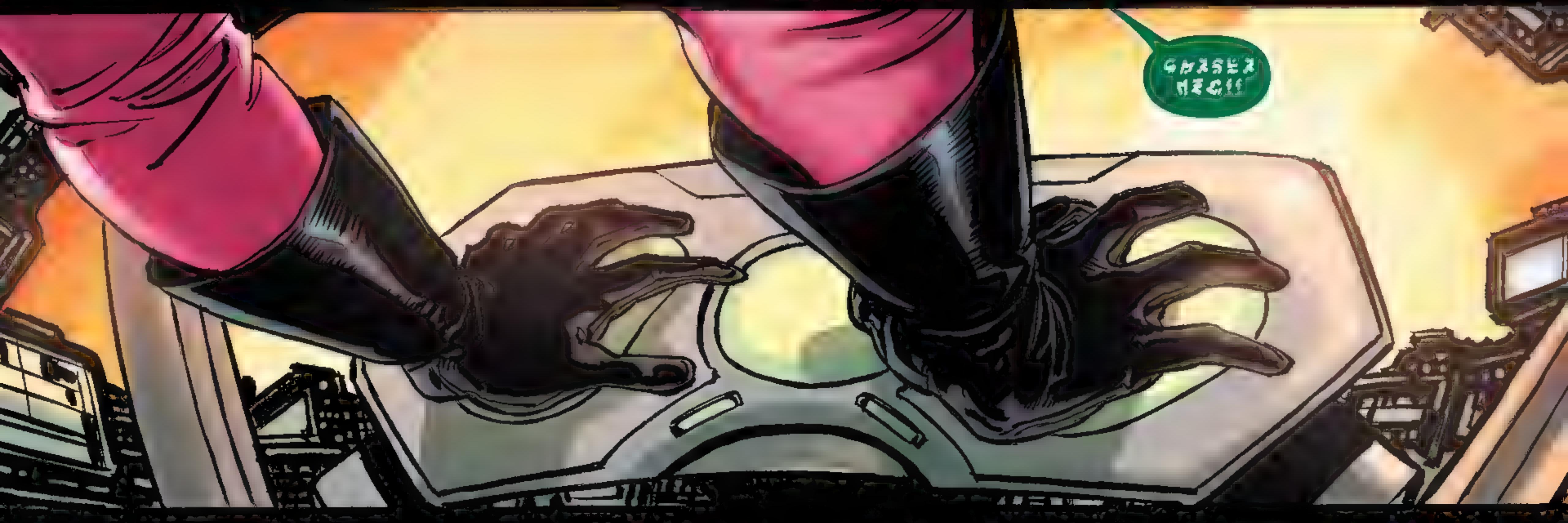






"AND WE WERE
IN SPACE!"





"WE STILL HAD A LITTLE SPACE TO SPARE."

PERHAPS YOU CAN HELP ME LOCATE CHARLES XAVIER? SURELY HE WOULD BE A HELP IN LOCATING AND PACIFYING CADRE K?

OH, I KNOW RIGHT WHERE HE IS. IN THE GRAVE DUG FOR HIM BY CYCLOPS HERE-- WHEN HE MURDERED HIM.

THAT'S NOT HOW IT HAPPENED. CAN WE FORGET THIS FOR A MOMENT SO I CAN HELP WITH THE CRISIS AT HAND?

WHAT?

WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?

I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND YOU HUMANS.

AS CYCLOPS IS FOND OF POINTING OUT, HIS HUMANITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN ISSUE.

HEY!

YOU'RE PATHETIC, SUMMERS. IT'S TRANSPARENT THAT YOU'RE WORRIED THIS FORCE OF SUPER-POWERED SKRULLS MIGHT BE UPSET WITH YOU FOR KILLING THEIR MENTOR.

YOU'RE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE. YOU'RE GOING TO NEED MY HELP WITH CADRE K.

THIS IS A GOOD DAY. I CAUGHT THE MURDERER OF MY FRIEND, AND NOW I GET TO STOP A TERROR ATTACK.

ONCE THESE LIQUID METAL CUFFS ARE DEPLOYED THE LOCK MECHANISM AND HINGES MELT INTO THE RESTRAINT. THERE'S NOT EVEN A LOCK TO PICK, AND IT'S STRONGER THAN TITANIUM.

LET'S SEE YOU ESCAPE FROM THOSE.

TO BE
CONTINUED...

CRASH & BURN IN BLACK & WHITE!

TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH, NATASHA.

SO WHAT--
THAT'S MUTANT FOR
"THANKS"?

WHATEVER.

I WILL
SAY--

YOU'RE MORE
CURIOS THAN
EMPATHETIC?

LOOK
AT YOU--

--AND I
THOUGHT YOUR
TELEPATHIC GIFTS
ARE SOMEWHAT,
SHALL WE SAY,
REDUCED.

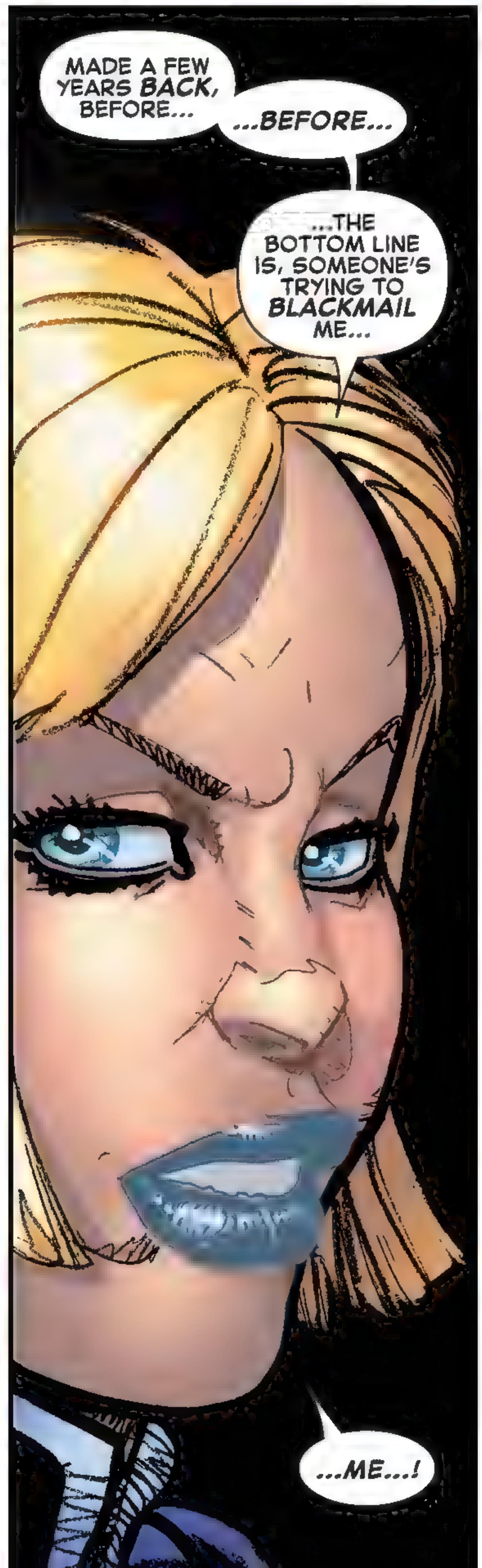
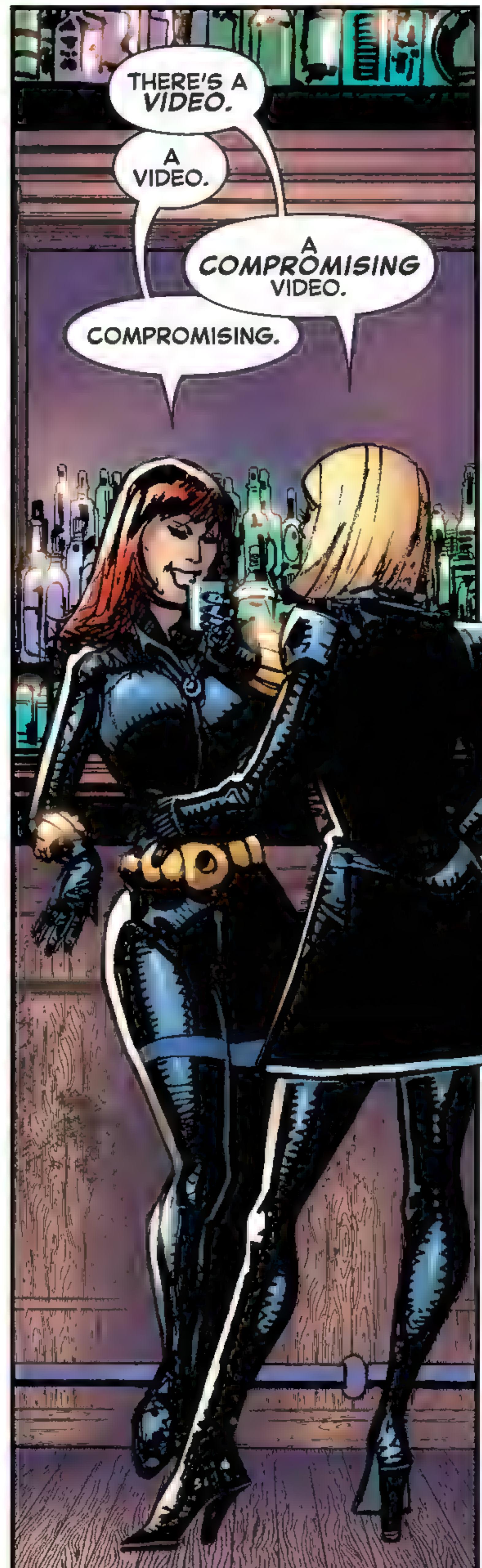
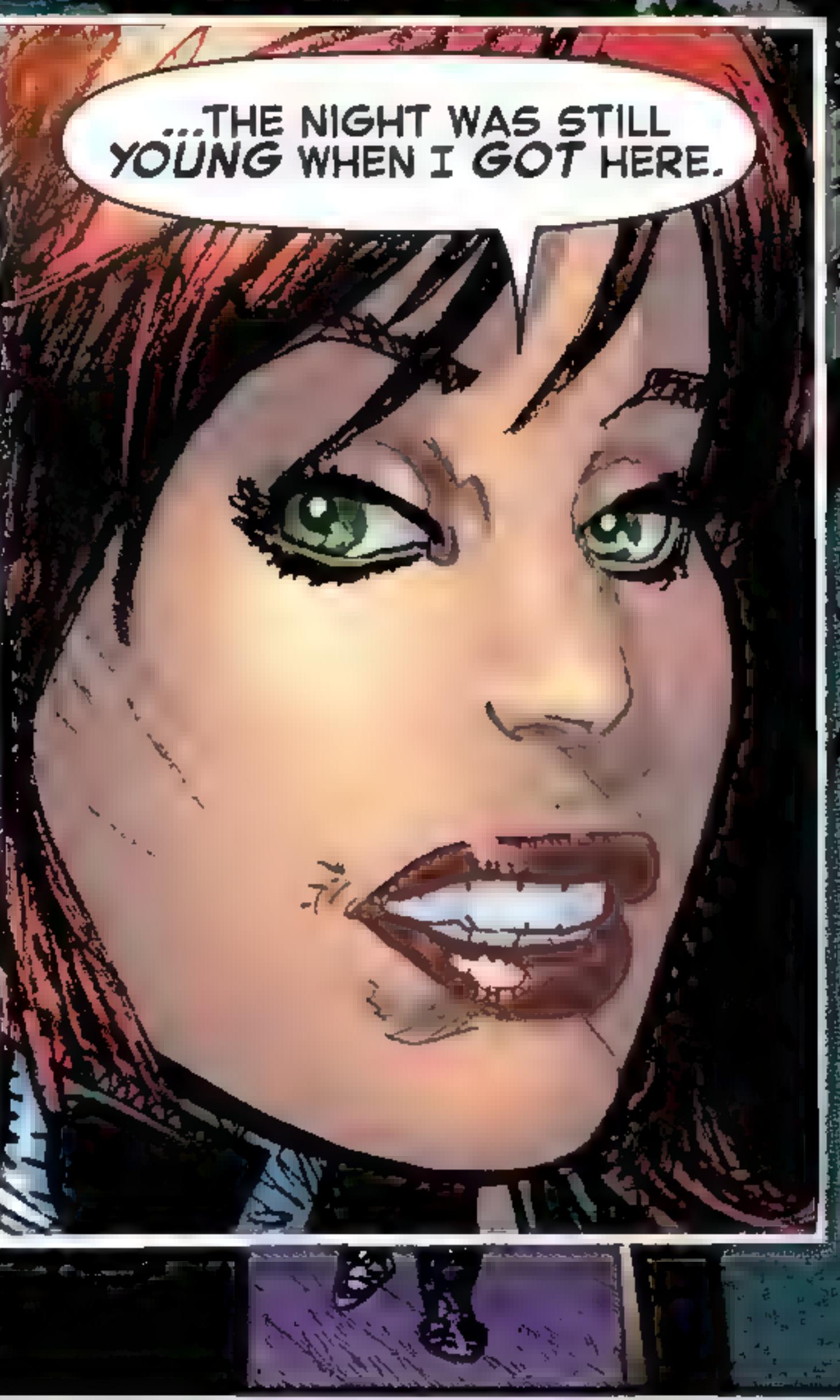
COMPLETELY
TRASHED...BUT
YOU DON'T NEED
TELEPATHY TO KNOW
THAT YOU AND I ARE
FAR FROM THE BEST
OF FRIENDS...

...BUT
YOU'RE ALSO
LEGENDARILY
DISCREET...

AN
ABSOLUTE
TRUTH.

...AND THE
NASTY LITTLE
HOLE I FIND MYSELF
IN CALLS FOR
THE UTMOST
DISCRETION...

...ONE BITCH TO
ANOTHER.



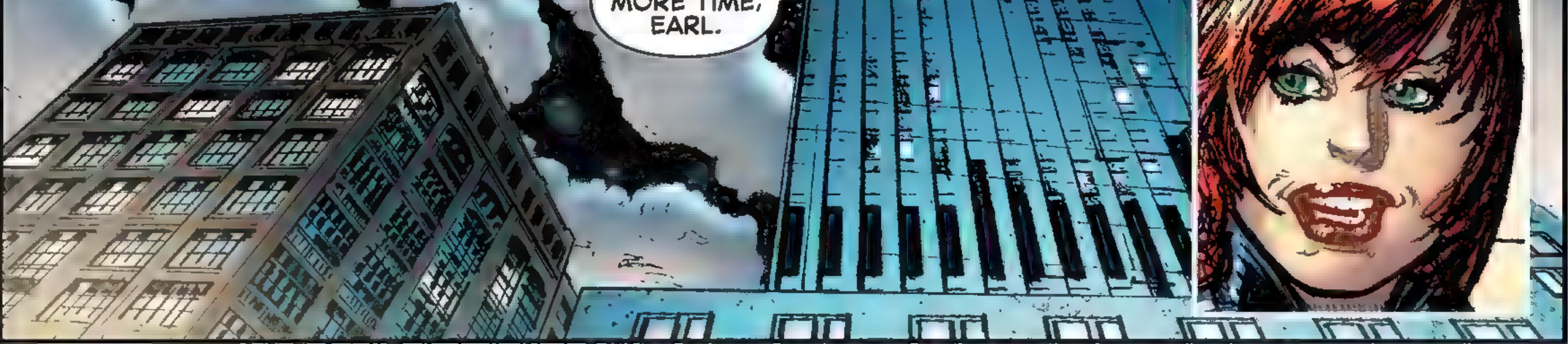
"...AND WITHOUT MY POWERS,
I CAN'T FIND A TRACE OF
THE BOTTOM-FEEDING
LOWLIFE LOOKING TO TURN
MY WORLD UPSIDE DOWN."

SPONGGGK

HOW LONG ARE
YOU WILLING TO GAMBLE
ON THE QUALITY OF THAT
GLASS...

URRNNGGGKKK!

ONE
MORE TIME,
EARL.



I DON'T--

SPONGGGK

...KNOWING
YOUR DADDY WENT
FOR THE LOWEST
BIDDER WHEN HE BUILT
THIS MILE-HIGH
TOWER OF
CRAP?

I
SWEAR IT, I
DON'T--

OWWW!



YOU SEE THOSE
HAIRLINE CRACKS,
EMMA?

I DO.

ONE
MORE MIGHT
DO IT.

ONE
CAN ONLY
HOPE.

OKAY,
OKAY...

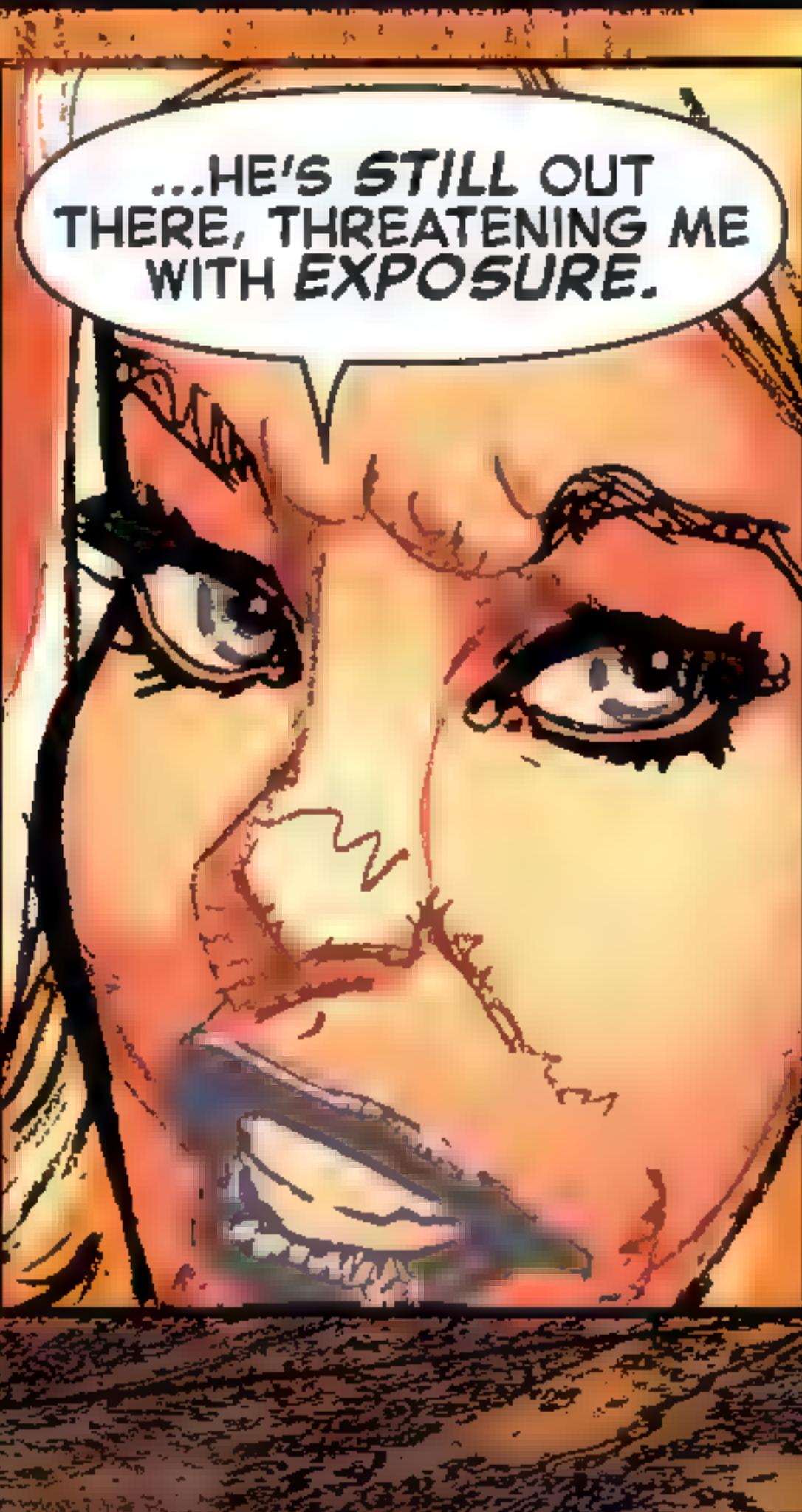
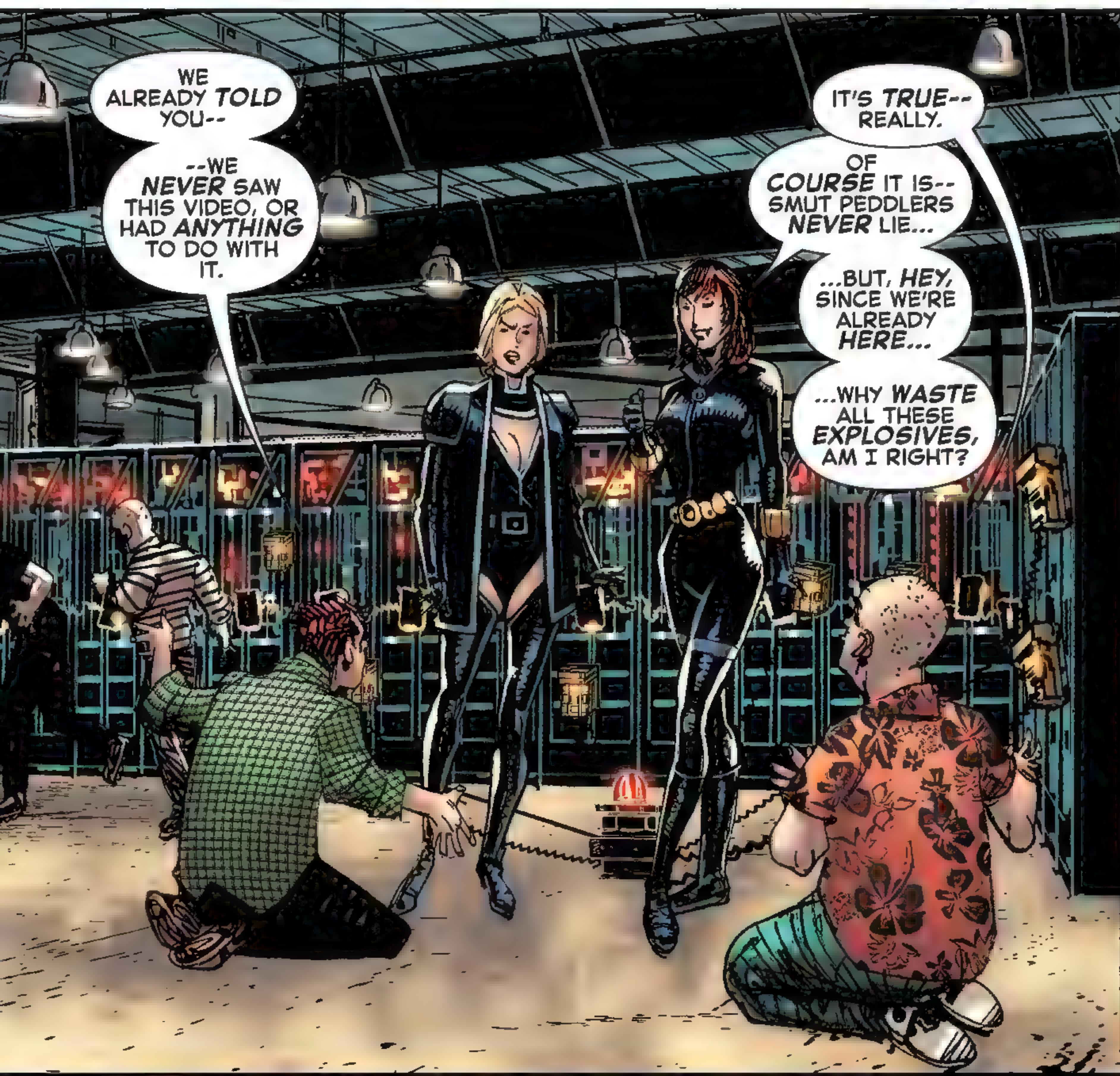
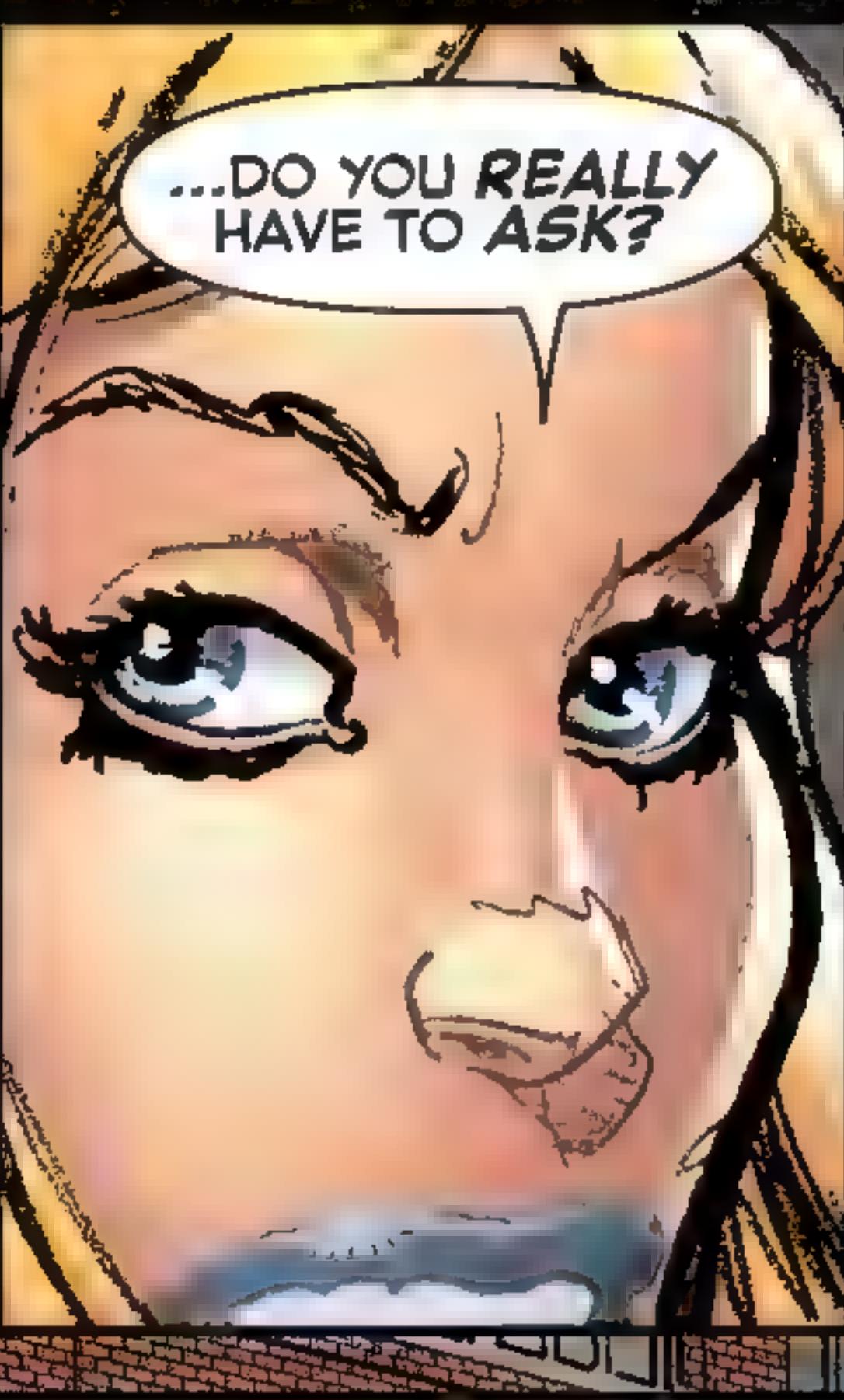
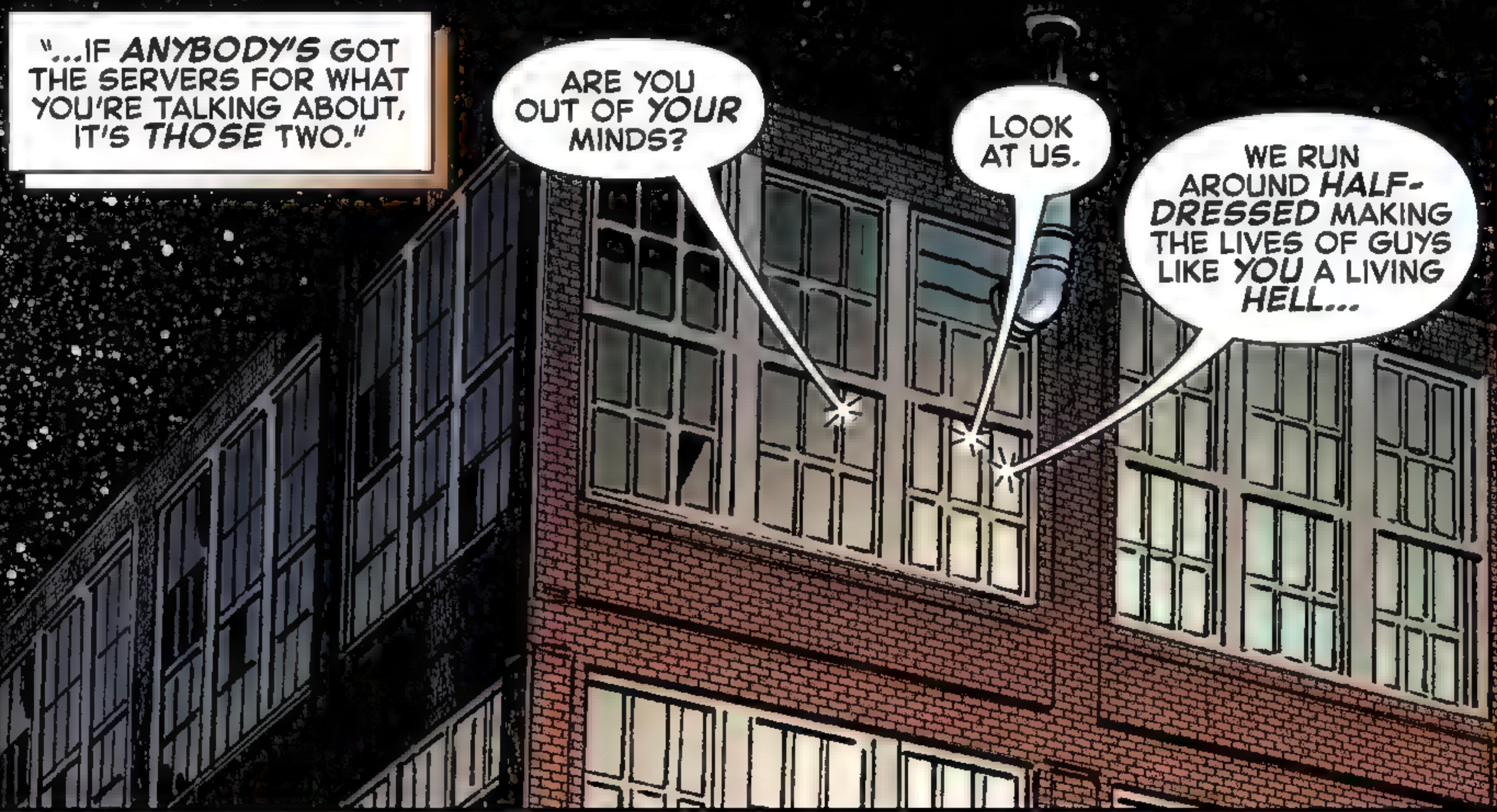


...BUT YOU
NEVER HEARD IT
FROM ME.

WE BOTH
KNOW NOTHING
FILTHY HAPPENS IN
THIS TOWN WITHOUT
YOU KNOWING
ABOUT IT--

BEST I
CAN TELL YOU IS
THERE'S A CANADIAN
AND A DUTCHMAN IN
LONG ISLAND
CITY...





REALLY--

--S.H.I.E.L.D.?

WHAT'S THE
POINT OF HAVING
CONNECTIONS IF
YOU DON'T USE
THEM?

I'M WONDERING WHY
WE DIDN'T GO THERE IN
THE FIRST PLACE.

I HOPED
IT WOULDN'T BE
NECESSARY...

...AND ANYTIME
YOU WANT TO COME
UP HERE, YOU'RE MORE
THAN WELCOME.

AND YOU
WONDER WHY
PEOPLE HATE
YOU.

ANYONE
I KNOW?

JUST
CATCHING
UP ON GIRL
TALK.

I'M
SURE.

THIS
SHOULD
DO THE JOB
YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT...AND
YOU OWE
ME.

AND YOU
OWE ME FOR A
LITTLE ON-THE-
JOB FIELD
TESTING...

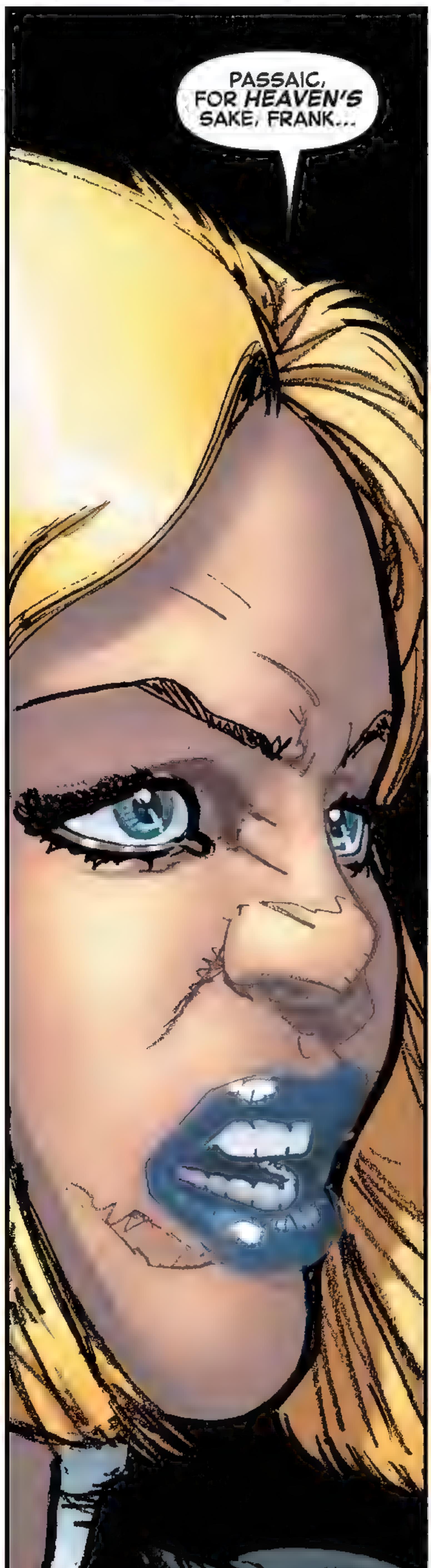
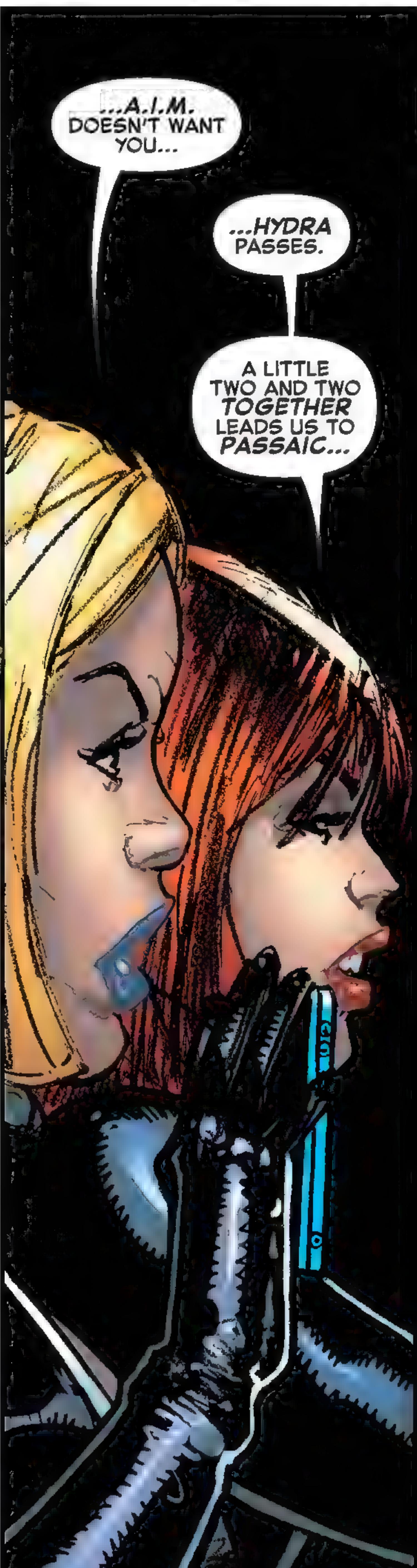
"...SO I'D CALL IT EVEN."

HOW'D YOU FIND ME?

A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS.

THE BLACK WIDOW HERE FINALLY FIGURED OUT...

...IT HAD TO BE SOMEONE WHO'D PIRATED STARK TECHNOLOGY...



...PASSAIC?

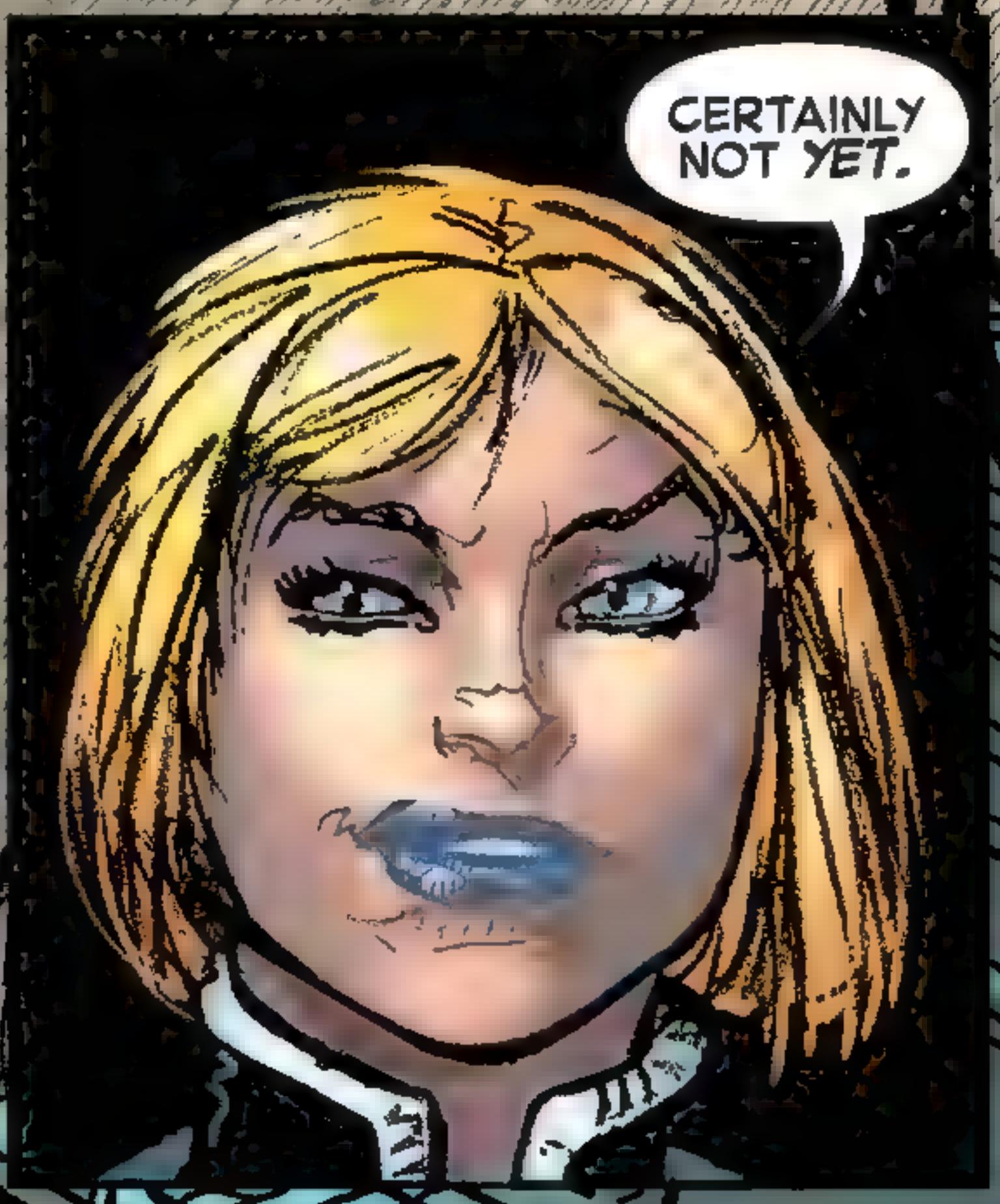
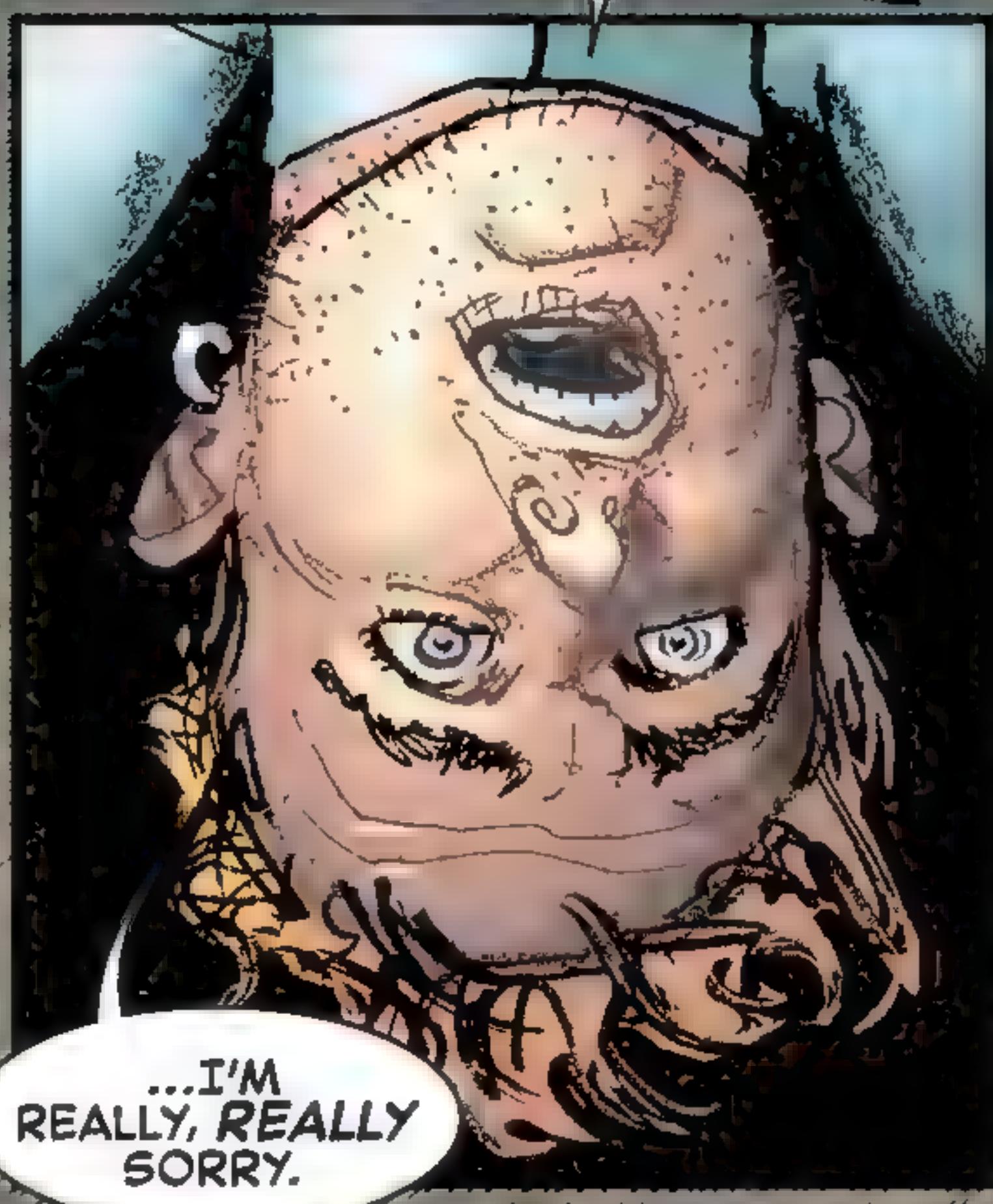
WE'RE
DONE
HERE.

I DON'T
THINK SO.

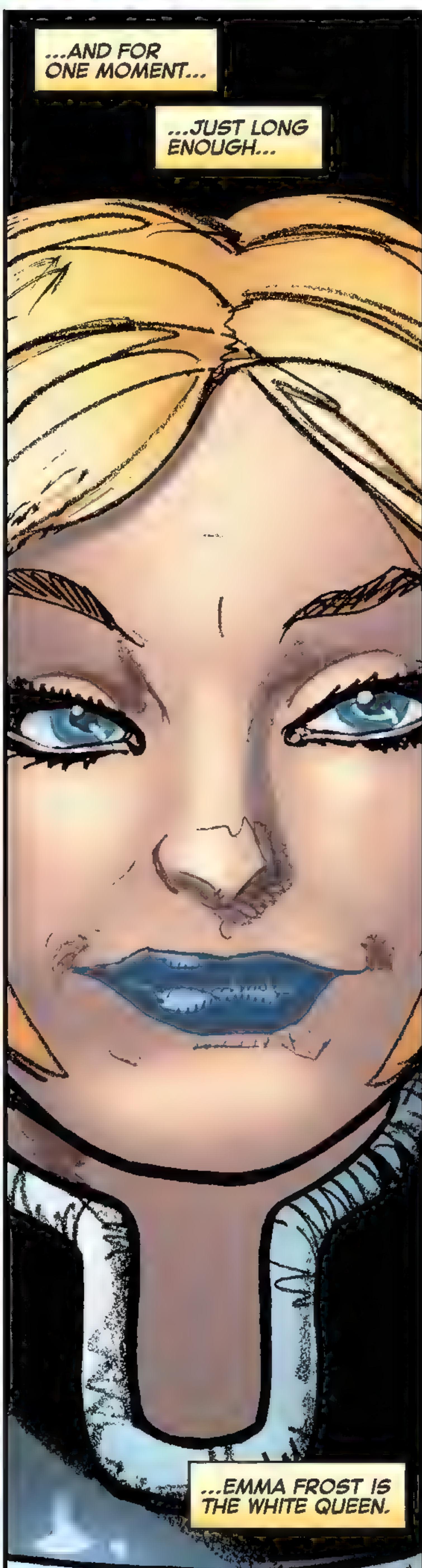
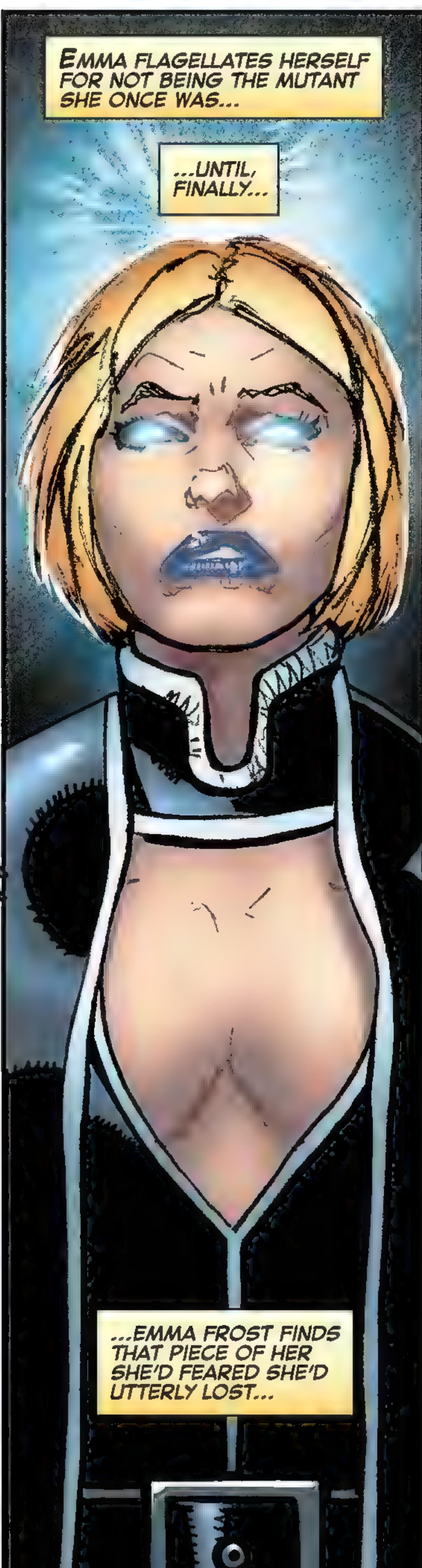
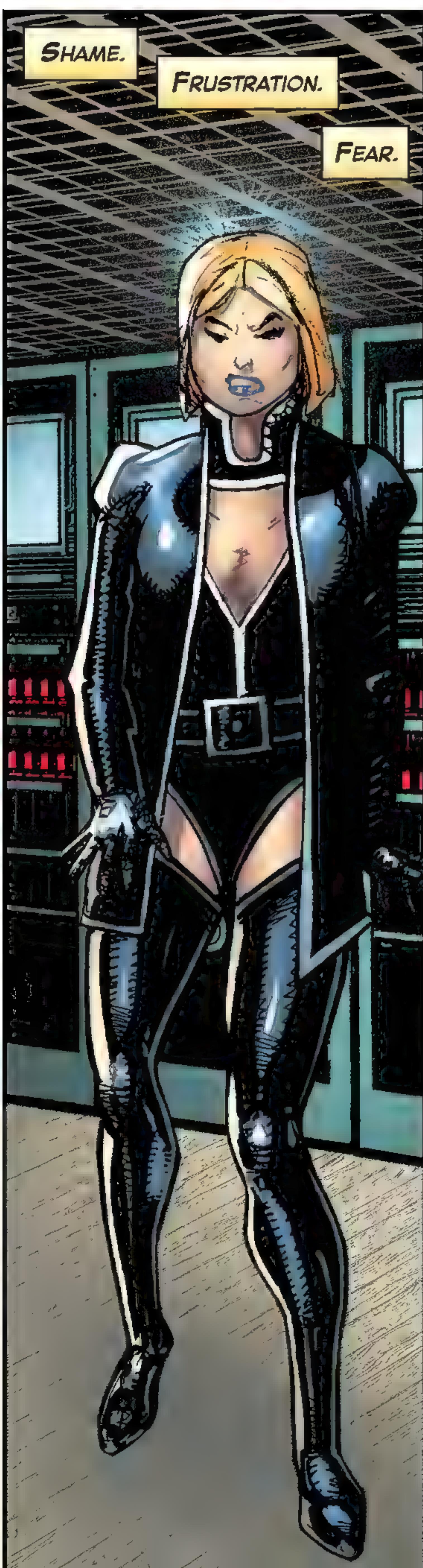
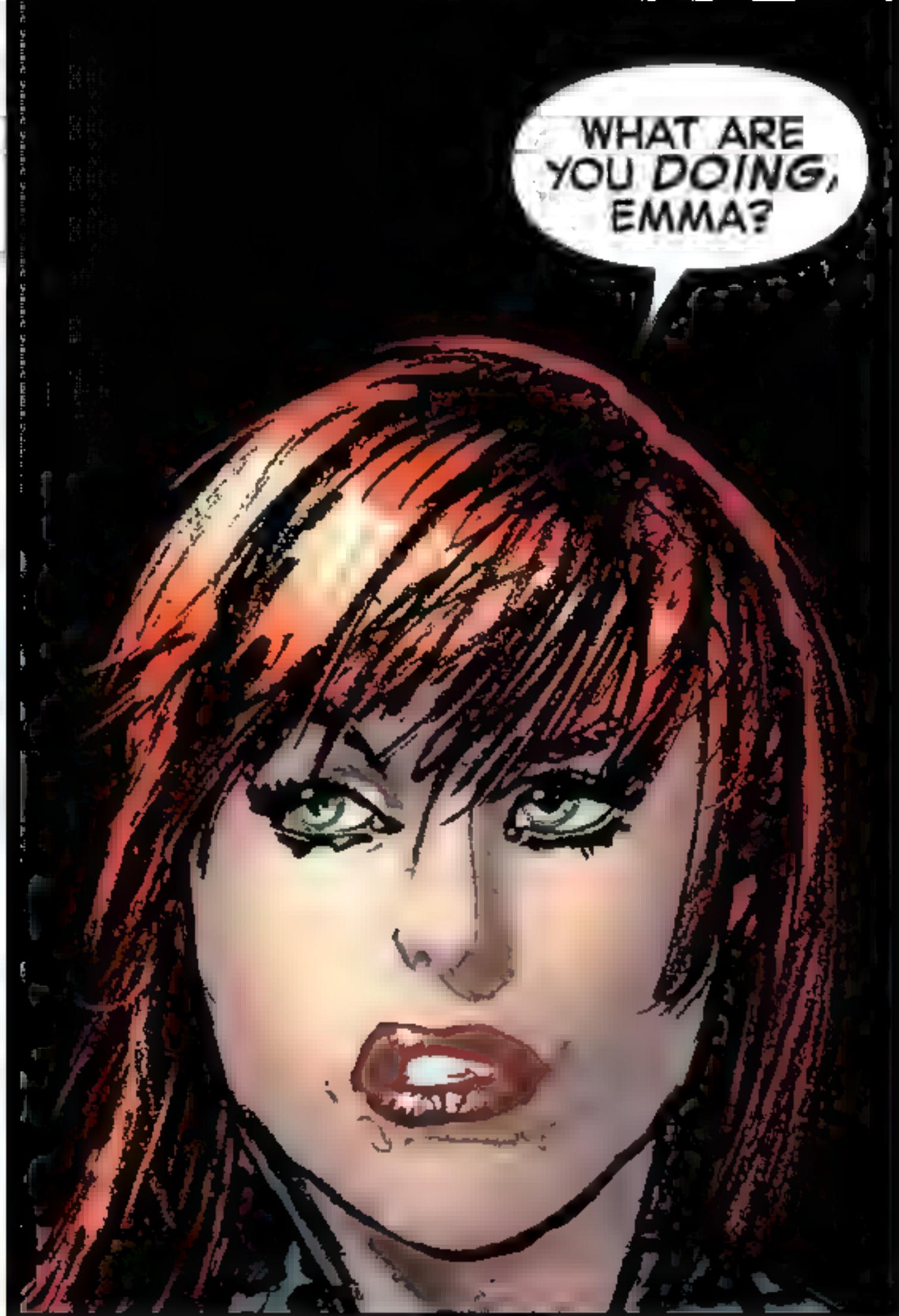
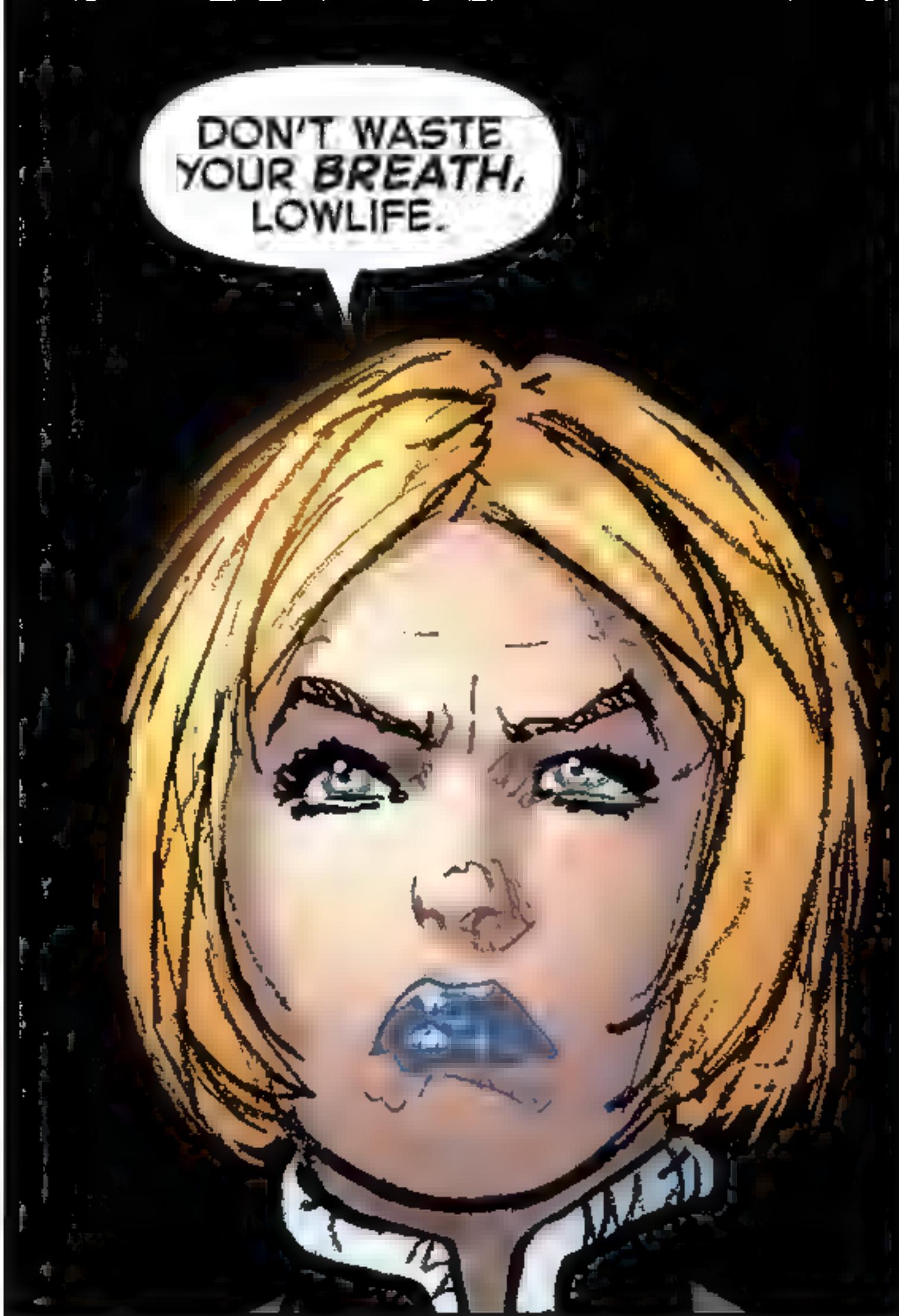
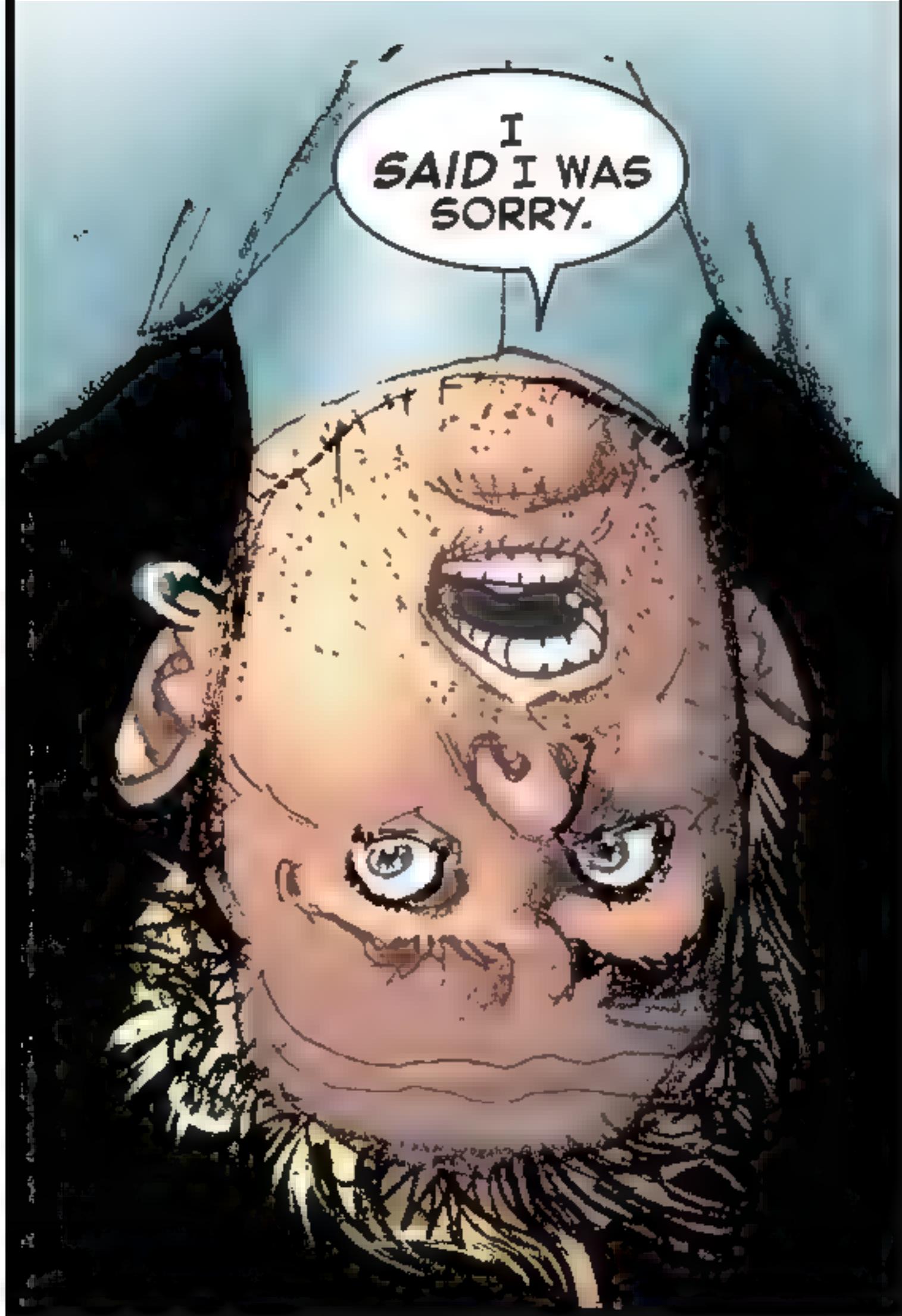
I'M
SORRY...

SOMETHING
TELLS ME YOU'RE
NOT QUITE SORRY
ENOUGH.

CERTAINLY
NOT YET.



SKIZZIT



OPEN YOUR
TOP AND FLASH
HIM, NATASHA.

I DON'T
THINK SO.

TRUST
ME--

--YOU'RE
REALLY GOING TO
LIKE THIS.

ANYBODY
ELSE, I'D SAY
FORGET ABOUT
IT...

..BUT YOU'VE
CLEARLY GOT
SOMETHING
NASTY IN
MIND--

--SO
WHAT THE
HELL.

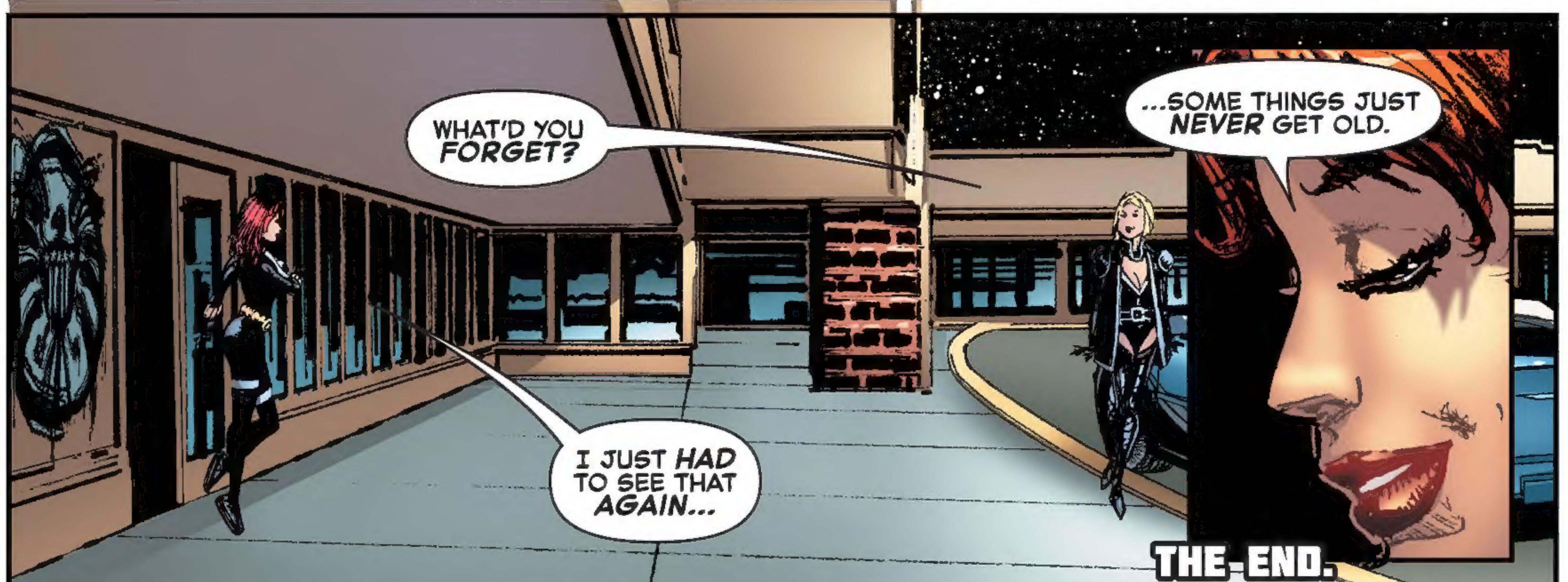
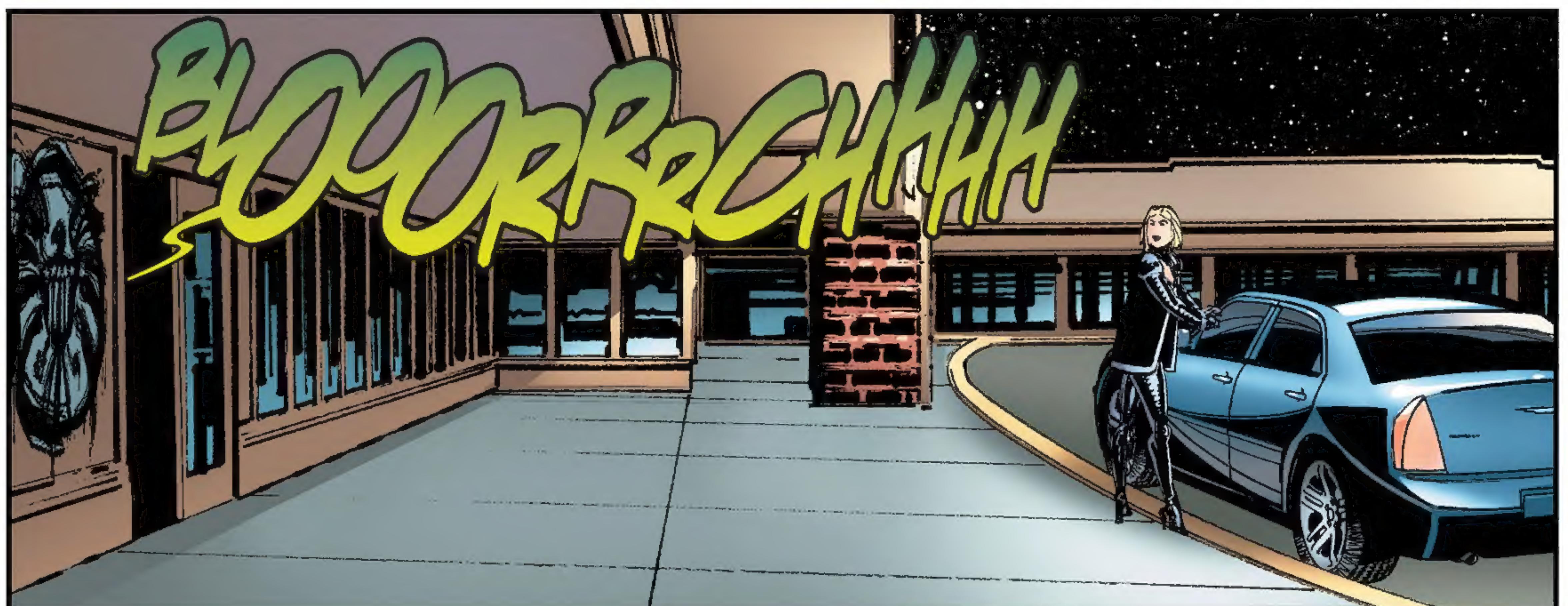
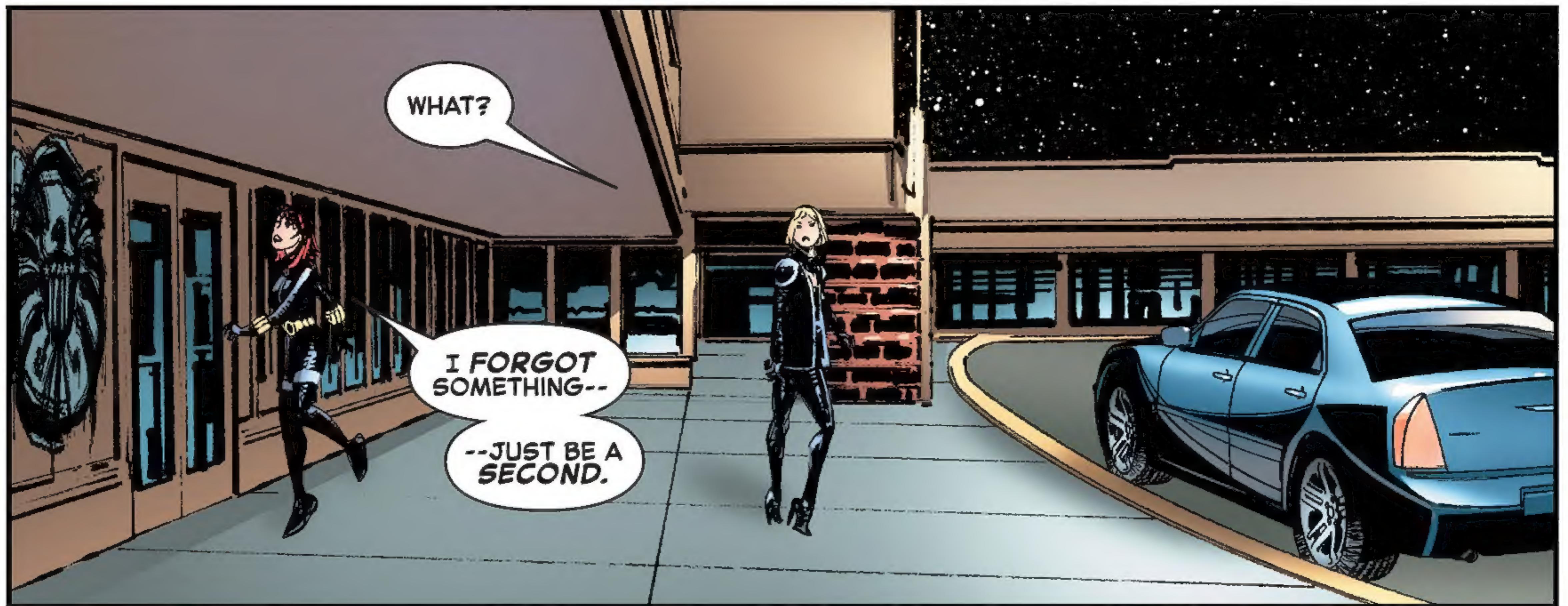
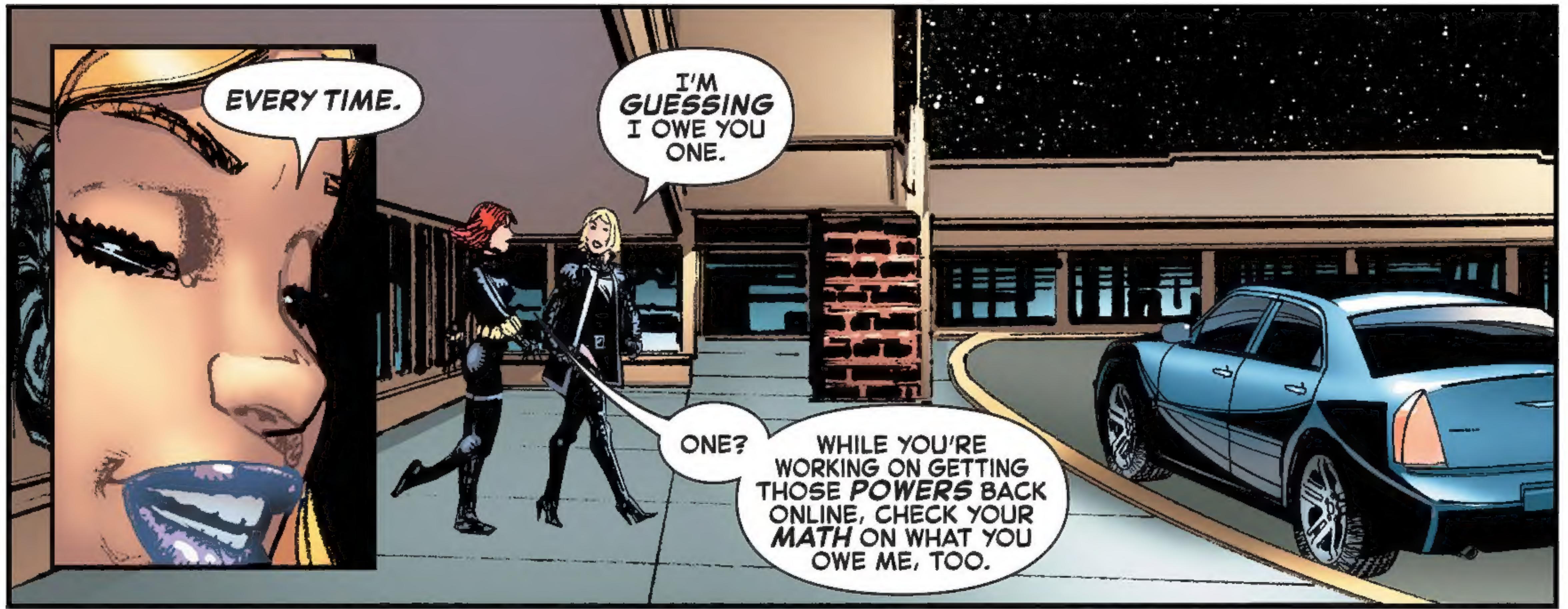
BOZHE
MOI!

SEE?

FROM NOW
ON, EVERY TIME
FRANK HERE SEES
A PAIR OF BARE
BREASTS, HE
PROJECTILE
VOMITS.

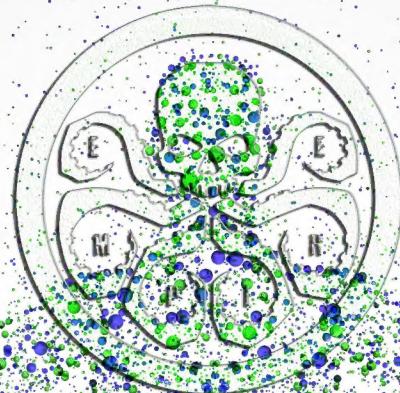
EVERY
TIME?

BOOBRUCHHH



NEXT ISSUE!





ZONE

